PROCLAMATION

EO 06-02

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME -- GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER.

WHEREAS, Pub. L. no. 108-173 has not been fully implemented as scheduled, and

WHEREAS, the delay in fully implementing the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 has caused many elderly and disabled individuals who are dually enrolled in Medicaid and Medicare and depend upon these programs to suddenly, and through no fault of their own, find themselves unable, or in immediate danger of being unable, to obtain prescriptions that are necessary to preserve life and health; and

WHEREAS, such individuals are among the most vulnerable Arkansans; and

WHEREAS, the circumstances that jeopardize the health and safety of these individuals are unprecedented, unique and likely to be of short duration; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas must act quickly and responsibly to preserve the health and welfare of affected individuals;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the Arkansas Emergency Powers Act and all other applicable law, I declare that a public health emergency exists and direct the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services to establish procedures for providing assistance to pharmacies that are providing Medicare Part D prescriptions to persons who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed at the Capitol in Little Rock on the 11th day of January in the Year of our Lord, two thousand and six.



GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE

SECRETARY OF STATE CHARLIE DANIELS